

National Training, Education, Extension, Outreach, and Technical Assistance Competitive Grants Program: Regional Center Grants to Enhance Food Safety

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Applications are due June 29, 2015 at 5pm EST

1. How will we avoid overlap with currently existing FSMA programs and curricula?

FSMA-funded Alliances are developing curricula for core content approved by FDA. Training courses for target audiences are developed/modified based on the food enterprise (e. g. commodity, organic, marketing, size) within the realms of core curricula approved by FDA. In addition, there is no single answer to the method of delivery of training and education, so coming up with multiple ways to deliver training and education using existing materials and modifying them to address multiple audiences, specifically the small and medium sized producers and processors.

2. Will the regional centers only address produce?

The regional centers should focus on produce safety training for small and medium sized producers and processors, but we encourage partners and/or sub-contracts that focus on other commodities regulated by FDA.

3. Can we include another collaborating institution that is not in the same region?

NO, we are strongly encouraging partnerships within the region.

4. When do you anticipate that FDA will release the RFA for the other 2 regional centers, and will the process used by FDA be similar to that of NIFA?

At this time, FDA does not have a release date. We will share the information on our website as soon as it becomes available.

5. Will the FDA-National Coordination Center Award be announced before June 29, 2015?

FDA is still in the review and clearance process at this time. It is not clear if we will have this information by June 29th.

6. Do all applicants need to request a matching waiver?

All those not listed in the RFA as a waived institution will need to request a matching waiver. Additional information can be found on pages 13 and 14 of the RFA.

7. Are all members of the project team required to attend a Project Director meeting?

Beginning in year 2 of the project, all Project Directors must attend an annual meeting. Other team members may attend as funds allow.

The National Regional Center for Food Safety Grants Program Team conducted a webinar on Tuesday, June 9th from 12:30-2:00 pm EST. The webinar provided potential applicants an opportunity to learn about the overall program, the contents of the RFA, and the application process. The **Webinar Recording (06/09/15) can be found at** <http://nifa.usda.gov/resource/national-training-education-extension-outreach-and-technical-assistance-competitive-grants>